

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition comprising emodin, or a derivative thereof, associated with a lipid.
2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the lipid comprises dimyristol phosphatidyl choline.
3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the lipid comprises dimyristol phosphatidyl glycerol.
4. The composition of claim 1, wherein a weight/weight ratio of lipid to emodin is about 5:1 to about 30:1.
5. The composition of claim 4, wherein the ratio of lipid to emodin is about 5:2.
6. The composition of claim 1, further comprising a solubilizing agent.
7. The composition of claim 6, wherein the solubilizing agent is a non-ionic detergent.
8. The composition of claim 7, comprising an amount of non-ionic detergent of about 0.05 to 15 percent weight/weight.
9. The composition of claim 8, wherein the amount of non-ionic detergent is about 0.08 percent weight/weight.
10. The composition of claim 7, wherein the non-ionic detergent is tween.
11. The composition of claim 10, wherein tween is tween 20.
12. The composition of claim 6, wherein the solubilizing agent is soybean or peanut oils.
13. The composition of claim 6, wherein the solubilizing agent is a β -hydroxylated compound.
14. A method of preparing a composition, comprising the step of admixing emodin or a derivative thereof with a lipid in a solvent.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the lipid is dimyristol phosphatidyl choline.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein a weight/weight ratio of lipid to emodin is about 5:1 to about 30:1.
17. The method of claim 16, wherein the ratio of lipid to emodin is about 15:1.
18. The method of claim 14, wherein the solvent is tertiary butanol.
19. The method of claim 14, further comprising admixing a solubilization agent.
20. The method of claim 19, wherein the solubilization agent is approximately 0.05 to 15% of the composition.
21. The method of claim 20, wherein the solubilization agent is approximately 0.08% of the composition.
22. The method of claim 19, wherein the solubilization agent is tween 20.
23. The method of claim 19, wherein the solubilization agent is soy or peanut oils.
24. The method of claim 19, wherein the solubilization agent is a β -hydroxylated compound.
25. The method of claim 14, further comprising lyophilizing the composition.
26. The method of claim 25, further comprising reconstituting the lyophilized composition in a solvent.
27. The method of claim 26, wherein the solvent is a saline solution.
28. The method of claim 27, wherein the saline solution is a 0.9% saline solution.
29. A method for treating cancer in a subject comprising administering to said subject a formulation comprising emodin associated with a lipid (lipid:emodin formulation), wherein a tyrosine kinase activity in cancer cells is inhibited in said subject.
30. The method of claim 29, wherein emodin is provided in a dose of approximately 1 mg/Kg of body weight to approximately 50 mg/Kg of body weight.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein the cancer is a hematopoietic cancer.
32. The method of claim 31, wherein the hematopoietic cancer is leukemia.
33. The method of claim 29, wherein administration of the lipid:emodin formulation is by injection.
34. The method of claim 33, wherein administration of the lipid:emodin formulation is by intravascular injection.
35. The method of claim 29, wherein the lipid:emodin formulation is administered at least once.
36. The method of claim 29, wherein the lipid:emodin formulation is administered at least twice.
37. The method of claim 29, wherein the lipid:emodin formulation is administered at least three times.